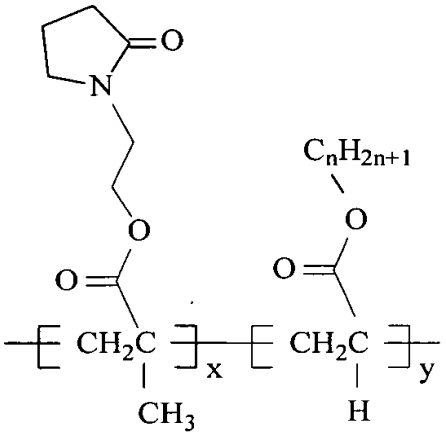
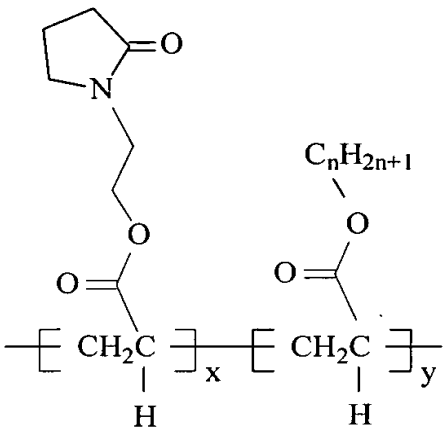


PyEMA copolymer



PyEA copolymer

These structures are being presented to clarify the description of the pendant methyl group for the pyrrolidonoethyl methacrylate (PyEMA) copolymer in contrast to the hydrogen for the pyrrolidonoethyl acrylate (PyEA) copolymer. The structures are also presented to illustrate the difference in the pendant acrylate groups between the pyrrolidonyl acrylate and the alkyl acrylate by demonstrating that the alkyl acrylate only includes a pendant hydrocarbon group in the ester functionality.

Applicant reiterates that the PyEMA and PyEA are separate entities and not a subset of each other. As discussed in the Examiner interview, the alkyl acrylate limitation includes a specific set of pendant groups and does not include functional groups, such as hydroxyethyl acrylate.

Please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims:

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously presented) A pressure sensitive adhesive composition comprising a copolymer comprising

(a) at least one A monomer selected from the group consisting of an alkyl acrylate containing 4 to 12 carbon atoms in the alkyl group and an alkyl methacrylate containing 4 to 12 carbon atoms in the alkyl group; and
(b) pyrrolidonoethyl acrylate.

2. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the A monomer is selected from the group consisting of isooctyl acrylate, 2-ethylhexyl acrylate, butyl acrylate, and cyclohexyl acrylate.

3. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the A monomer is isooctyl acrylate.

4. (Original) The composition of claim 1 further comprising a B monomer that is copolymerizable with the A and pyrrolidone monomers.

5. (Original) The composition of claim 4 wherein the B monomer comprises a functional group selected from the group consisting of carboxylic acid, carboxylic acid ester, sulfonamide, urea, carbamate, carboxamide, hydroxy, amine, oxy, oxo, and cyano.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the copolymer further comprises a macromonomer.

8. (Original) The composition of claim 7 wherein the macromonomer is a functionally terminated polymethylmethacrylate.

9. (Original) The composition of claim 7 further comprising a drug in an amount such that the composition delivers a therapeutically effective amount for the indication being treated.

10. (Original) The composition of claim 9 wherein the copolymer contains from about 1%

to about 6% of macromonomer by weight.

11. (Original) The composition of claim 10 wherein the pyrrolidone monomer is pyrrolidonoethyl acrylate.

12. (Original) The composition of claim 11 wherein the copolymer contains from about 10% to about 45% of pyrrolidonoethyl acrylate by weight.

13. (Original) The composition of claim 12 wherein the copolymer further comprises vinyl acetate.

14. (Original) The composition of claim 12 further comprising a softener wherein the concentration of softener is from about 10% to about 40% based on the total weight of the composition.

15. (Original) The composition of claim 1 further comprising a drug in an amount such that the composition delivers a therapeutically effective amount for the indication being treated.

16. (Original) The composition of claim 1 further comprising a softener.

17. (Original) The composition of claim 16 wherein the softener is selected from the group consisting of a C_8-C_{36} fatty acid; a C_8-C_{36} fatty alcohol; a lower alkyl ester of a C_8-C_{36} fatty acid; a di(lower) alkyl ester of a C_6-C_8 diacid ; a monoglyceride of a C_8-C_{36} fatty acid; tetraglycol; tetraethylene glycol; a C_6-C_{36} alkyl pyrrolidone carboxylate; a polyethylene glycol; propylene glycol; 2-(2-ethoxyethoxy)ethanol; diethylene glycol monomethyl ether; N,N-dimethyldodecylamine N-oxide; and combinations of any two or more of the foregoing.

18. (Original) The composition of claim 16 wherein the concentration of softener is from about 10% to about 40% based on the total weight of the composition.

19. (Original) The composition of claim 1 further comprising an anti-microbial agent.

20. (Original) The composition of claim 19 wherein the anti-microbial agent is selected from the group consisting of chlorhexidine, a chlorhexidine salt, and mixtures thereof.

21. (Original) The composition of claim 19 wherein the anti-microbial agent is selected from the group consisting of iodine, iodine complexes with sodium or potassium iodide, and mixtures thereof.

22. (Original) The composition of claim 19 wherein the copolymer contains from about 5% to about 15% of pyrrolidonoethyl acrylate by weight.

23. (Original) The composition of claim 22 wherein the anti-microbial agent is selected from the group consisting of chlorhexidine, a chlorhexidine salt, and mixtures thereof.

24. (Original) The composition of claim 22 wherein the anti-microbial agent is selected from the group consisting of iodine, iodine complexes with sodium or potassium iodide, and mixtures thereof.

25. (Original) A transdermal delivery device comprising a backing and a composition according to claim 9, the composition being coated on at least a portion of a surface of the backing.

26. (Original) A transdermal drug delivery device comprising a backing and a composition according to claim 14, the composition being coated on at least a portion of a surface of the backing.

27. (Original) A transdermal drug delivery device comprising a backing and a composition according to claim 15, the composition being coated on at least a portion of a surface of the backing.